

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 JULY 1985

Mideast Bombings

Kuwaiti attacks — Explosions rocked two cafes in Al-Sharq and Al-Salimayah areas, resulting in 100 casualties, KUNA reported, noting that the cause of the Al-Sharq explosion may have been a time bomb. Following an emergency meeting, the Kuwaiti Cabinet reaffirmed in a statement carried by the agency that these "sinful" acts will not change Kuwait's "firm stand" and that the nation will remain secure despite the practices of "desperate rancorous groups." Kuwait Airport has been closed for outgoing flights as a precautionary measure, according to an official source cited by KUNA.

Iranian bus bomb — A bomb which exploded on a Tabriz intercity bus 11 July killed seven people, IRNA stated, adding that "agents of the enemy" were thought to be responsible.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq launched a successful raid against a "large maritime target" near Khark Island 12 July, according to a military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio. AFP identified the tanker as the Turkish *M. Seyhan*, and reported the crew abandoned ship.

Following the 11 July Iraqi bombing of Piranshah reported by Tehran radio, the Joint Staff Command announced that Iran shot down an Iraqi plane 12 July, capturing the pilot, IRNA reported.

Lebanon

Preparations have begun to assemble a "military strike force" based on the 9 July Damascus agreement and the 11 July security committee session chaired by Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Beirut radio announced. The 3,000-man force will be under the command of the prime minister and minister of defense, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed adding that the Druze, Sunni, and Shi'ite leaders' request to be represented on the force would make it a "substitute" 6th Brigade, a unit "rejected" for Shi'ite domination. Following the security committee meeting, Karami stressed in a news conference carried by Beirut radio that the Damascus "plan," which covers Beirut, the camps, and the international airport, could return stability and peace, while expressing thanks to Syria for its "primary role in helping"

Lebanon. As for the U.S. move to suspend aid to Lebanon, Karami observed that U.S. aid had been suspended since the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, but the United States is "officially announcing it only now."

Meanwhile, the names of three hijackers of the TWA airliner have been submitted to Lebanese judicial authorities for "appropriate" action, Beirut radio revealed. The radio did not identify the body making the names available.

Egypt-French Talks

Summing up his talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak as "extremely fruitful and useful," French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas divulged in a news conference reported by MENA that the talks placed special emphasis on Mideast issues. Although there was no specific discussion of military issues, Dumas revealed that "financial aspects" of the Mirage 2000 deal were examined and noted the discussion of problems concerning the French-Israeli agreement to build a nuclear reactor in Israel. Dumas also met his Egyptian counterpart who praised their "excellent" relations, the agency stated.

Sudan

The "expected massive military offensive" by government forces which began 10 July in the southern Upper Nile and Equatoria regions against the Sudanese People's Liberation Army forces was "successfully wiped out," the clandestine (SPLA) radio claimed. The radio estimated the government forces to number about 10,000.

Maghreb

The Saharan People's Liberation Army "recently" routed and inflicted "heavy losses" on Moroccan troops a 10 July Saharan Ministry of Information communique cited by APS announced.

DRA-Pakistan

The Pakistan Foreign Office dismissed the DRA's 10 July protest concerning 3 and 4 July shelling of Qandahar Province as "fictitious," Karachi radio reported.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Innocent Civilians' Killed in Bomb Explosion

*LD111748 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT
11 Jul 85*

[Text] By perpetrating another horrifying and shocking crime criminal counterrevolutionaries have soiled with blood a number of children, women and innocent civilians.

According to a BAKHTAR report, yesterday afternoon as a result of the explosion of a powerful bomb in the market of the Microrayon district, planted by the mercenary criminal counterrevolutionaries, a number of innocent civilians, mostly women and children, were martyred, and a number of women and children were seriously injured.

This unforgiveable crime proves the weakness and inability of the counterrevolutionaries and their imperialist, reactionary and hegemonist masters, who can no longer face the heroic Armed Forces of the country and therefore treacherously and with impunity embark on shameful terrorist actions, the murder of women and innocent children and the disruption of the life of our people in markets, transportation vehicles and crowded centers.

A source of the country's security forces told BAKHTAR that this inhuman crime, like other crimes of the counterrevolutionaries, will not remain unpunished and the perpetrators will receive the punishment of their brutal crime.

The source invited noble compatriots to cooperate with the security forces of the country in order to arrest the criminals and to maintain their vigilance against the criminal deeds of the counterrevolutionaries.

In the event of seeing suspicious persons and movements, they should inform the security forces of the country as soon as possible in order to safeguard themselves, their family, children brothers and compatriot sisters.

The source added that our compatriots can contact the reception department of the State Information Services, telephone number 21908, in the event of seeing suspicious persons or objects.

Killer of Party Members Sentenced to Death

LD120656 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 11, BAKHTAR: The special Revolutionary Court of the DRA has sentenced to death Mohammad Afzal son of Abdul Mannan, an inhabitant of Ghazni Province and member of criminal Islami band, after conducting a public trial in Ghazni.

Mohammad Afzal was accused of taking part in armed resistance against the Armed Forces of the DRA, and of killing party members and state officials, plundering people's properties and levying "fines" on the people.

The accused admitted to his crimes and stated that he and his colleagues were trained by U.S., Pakistani and Chinese instructors in military camps in Pakistan and were dispatched to the DRA for carrying out terroristic actions.

Also three other counter-revolutionaries who had been operating in Ghazni Province were sentenced to different terms of imprisonment, for their criminal deeds.

Revolutionary Council Releases Prisoners

*LD112145 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT
11 Jul 85*

[Text] According to a decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium on the reduction and remission of prisoners' sentences in honor of the historic and glorious Loya Jerga and on the instructions of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, more than 400 prisoners of the capital were released from Pol-e Charkhi prison in a ceremony today.

At a meeting held today at Pol-e Charki prison on the release of the prisoners, Hashmat Kyhani, prosecutor of the DRA Special Prosecution Department, congratulated the prisoners on their release which took place in the light of the amnesty decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium and in honor of the Loya Jerga.

After speaking in detail about the importance of the decisions of the Loya Jerga, he expressed confidence that our deceived compatriots who are going to commence their life of freedom can fully perceive the humanitarian policy of the party and the revolutionary government and henceforth will embark on earnest work for the construction of a prosperous, tranquil and blossoming society of revolutionary Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA.

BAKHTAR adds that Mowlawi Mohammad Salem 'Almi, member of the credentials commission of the Loya Jerga and member of the Executive board of the National fatherland front central council, said:

The release of the prisoners today which took place in accordance with the humanitarian and humane objectives of the party and government and the direct instructions of the esteemed Babrak Karmal, and in honor of the historic Loya Jerga of the DRA, itself demonstrates the goodwill of the party and the revolutionary government for safeguarding the interests of all toilers and protecting the holy religion of Islam.

Our people themselves have seen what the enemies of Islam in the United States, London, Pakistan and Iran do in our homeland in the name of the sacred Islam. Their Islamicism is to kill women and defenseless children and men in the country.

Najibollah, son of Khair Mohammad, spoke on behalf of those prisoners who were being pardoned, and announced his unrestrained support for the decisions and resolutions of the historic Loya Jerga and gave an assurance to the people of Afghanistan, the DRA Revolutionary Council and Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, that henceforth they will not fall prey to the deception of the enemies of the April Revolution — those servants of imperialism led by U.S. imperialism — and, despite the fact that they had previously fallen prey to the deception of the enemies, will stand firm to the end in defense of

the revolution and the independence of our country, and will be ready for every sacrifice until the complete elimination of the remnant of the rebels.

The release papers were then presented to the prisoners by Hashmat Kyhani, the special revolutionary prosecutor, in the presence of a number of generals, Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel, and the people's elected delegates in the Loya Jerga.

In view of the profound respect of the party and government for the decisions of the Loya Jerga as a praiseworthy tradition of the toiling people of the country, and in view of the instructions of Babrak Karmal at the opening session of the historic Loya Jerga of the people of Afghanistan on the remission of the remaining term of imprisonment and reduction of sentence of those prisoners who have not committed grave counterrevolutionary crimes, a commission was set up by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium to present proposals in this respect.

In accordance with the proposals of the commission in charge, the Revolutionary Council Presidium has issued a decree on the remission and reduction of sentence of the prisoners in honor of the Loya Jerga of the people of Afghanistan.

On the basis of this decree today more than 400 prisoners of the capital were released from prison. A source told BAKHTAR that the release of the prisoners is also taking place in the country's provinces.

Balkh Province Security Forces Crush Rebels

LD111828 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a spokesman for the security forces of Balkh Province, reports that as a result of successful operations recently carried out in order to clear the villages and hamlets of Gordara, Kuh-e Alborz, Aq Dara, Dasht Dara and Serposh Dara of the filth of the rebels, 191 rebels including 4 savage ringleaders, were crushed and 46 of these killers were arrested.

Two d.sh.k. weapons, 2 ZK-1 weapons, 315 assorted weapons, 12 heavy machineguns, seven recoilless artillery pieces, 23 rocket launchers, one antitank artillery piece, 17 motor vehicles, 1,700 antitank mines, 446 antipersonnel mines, 400 hand grenades, 133,190 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 36 spare barrels of d.sh.k. weapons, which were given to them by their imperialist and hegemonist masters for the killing and plundering of our defenseless compatriots, were seized, and the murdering and plundering committees of the Harakat-e Enqlab-e Islami, Golbuddin band, the Etehad-e Islami and Jam'iat, along with their ringleaders were eliminated, and the noble people of these regions have been relieved of their unforgiveable, inhuman and anti-Islamic crimes.

With the continuation of successful operations by the vigilant security forces, mounted to restore nationwide peace and to create a calm and prosperous life for our compatriots, in the course of victorious operations which were recently carried out in the vicinity of Jowjan, Nimruz, Helmand, Nangarhar and

Oruzgan Provinces, a number of the savage rebels who, by terrorism and intimidation, had been disrupting the peaceful life of our compatriots in these regions on the instruction of their imperialist masters, were crushed and a number of them were arrested. A large number of weapons and various kinds of ammunition were seized from them.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that, as a result of the successful operation which was recently carried out in the vicinity of Laghman Province, a number of the rebels, including (Gol 'Alem), nicknamed (Mowlawi Malang), and two savage ringleaders of the murderous band of Harakat-e Enqlab-e Islami in that province, were crushed and a number of various weapons and ammunition were seized from them.

Surrender of 18-Man Rebel Group Detailed

LD112226 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] In connection with the surrender of those people who had links with the rebel bands due to their hostile and illegitimate propaganda, an 18-man group, led by Mamoud Nasrollah, who had links with the criminal band of Gulbuddin, have recently surrendered with their weapons to the security authorities of Jowzjan — taking advantage of the message and resolution of Loya Jerga and the general amnesty decree of the DRA Presidium.

In repenting their past deeds they gave an assurance to stand up to the end for the defense of the gains of the April Revolution and its new development stage, and will work earnestly for the construction of a new and blossoming society in the country.

BAKHTAR Responds to Reagan's Terrorism Speech

LD120659 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 11, BAKHTAR: President Ronald Reagan, addressing a convention of the American Bar Association, had to admit that resistance is mounting in developing countries to the U.S. foreign policy course directed, as is generally known, at subordinating these countries to American economic and strategic interests.

The reason for the growth of anti-American sentiments in the world, according to Reagan, lies in "international terrorism" rather than in the very nature of Washington's aggressive, imperialist policy.

Recalling unconnected events, for instance, the hijacking of a Trans World Airlines plane Reagan undertook an attempt to attach the tag of "international terrorism" to all peoples and countries which are fighting for political and economic self-determination, and against U.S. dictat, and described the Soviet Union's solidarity with this struggle as "support for terrorist organizations."

Reagan warned that the United States was "not going to tolerate intimidation, terror and outright acts of war" and that Washing-

ton would "act". At that, he referred to "lessons in American history".

According to these lessons, however, it is Washington which resorted in the past and resorts at present to state terrorism world wide, which, inevitably, sets whole countries and peoples against the United States.

In Asia, in Vietnam alone, the United States sowed death and destruction for more than ten years in an unprecedented action of state-sponsored terrorism only because the Vietnamese people did not wish to tolerate foreign domination. At present, the United States backs the Pol Pot men who brutally exterminated more than three million Kampucheans. None other than the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left for Thailand to meet the Pol Pot men on the border with Kampuchea and assure them of continued U.S. support.

Against this background, Reagan's claims that the United States is loved all over the world and that for millions of people it remains "a shining city on a hill" sound particularly sacrilegious.

Official Spokesman Condemns Colombo Bomb Plot

*BK111455 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service
in English 1443 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[Text] The official spokesman made the following statement on 11th July, 1985: "We have heard with great dismay about the reported terrorist plan to carry out a big explosion in Colombo today. We have been informed by the Sri Lanka Government that the plan was aborted by the security agencies of Sri Lanka. We condemn in unequivocal terms violence in any form.

The Government of India has always been opposed to all acts of terrorism. India was in no way involved in it. As the prime minister has categorically stated, we are ready to cooperate with any country in combatting terrorism. Terrorism does not solve any problems: In fact it renders a solution even more difficult. We urge all sides to exercise maximum restraint at this delicate stage."

Court Sentences 11 Sikh Soldiers for Mutiny

*BK121249 London BBC World Service in English
1200 GMT 12 Jul 85*

[From "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] A military court in India has sentenced 11 Sikh soldiers to prison terms ranging from 4 to 12 years for mutiny. They were among the many Sikh soldiers who mutinied last year after the Indian Army went into the Sikh's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple complex, in Amritsar. At the same time, reports from Amritsar say that sporadic attacks on the security forces have continued.

Satish Jacob sent this dispatch from Delhi: Eleven Sikh soldiers of the Punjab battalion have been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment ranging from 4 to 12 years. They were among 122 soldiers who deserted their garrison near Pune in western India and tried to march toward Amritsar carrying arms and ammunition in the wake of the army action in the Golden Temple a year ago. The maximum punishment of 12 years was awarded to

Sergeant Major Baldev Singh, who incited the soldiers by giving a speech. There were mutinies by Sikh soldiers in Rajasthan and Bihar also. Court martial proceedings against more than a thousand soldiers are now going on in two other places.

The leaders of the Sikh religious party — the Akali Dal — have repeatedly demanded a general amnesty for all Sikh soldiers standing trial. They argue that the soldiers had acted under extreme emotional strain and that a general pardon for them will go a long way in creating a right atmosphere in the Punjab for a lasting solution to the crisis. The central government has ordered the release of more than 700 Sikhs arrested in the Punjab for terrorist activity, but it has given no indication of showing any leniency toward the Sikh soldiers. Meanwhile, there have been a number of incidents in Amritsar District in the past 2 days. One police constable and a police informer were shot dead in two different incidents. In a third incident yesterday, a bank was robbed by three armed men. The constable was killed when five armed men raided a police station on the outskirts of Amritsar at night.

Defense Minister on Air Force Modernization Program

*BK111644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
11 Jul 85*

[Text] The defense minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, has said that the Mirage-2000 fighter aircraft the Indian Air Force [IAF] has acquired recently is capable of meeting any threat. The IAF is fully prepared to meet any challenge to the country's security. It is also thinking in futuristic terms for its development. He was speaking to the members of the Parliament's consultative committee attached to his ministry. The meeting was held today at the Air Force Station Hindon near New Delhi, and the members were given a thrilling air display by aircraft and helicopters to give them an idea of the country's air defense capability.

During the discussion, the members of Parliament stressed the need for strengthening early warning capability and also the need for airborne early warning system.

Lisbon Paper Interviews President Ziaul Haq

PM111613 Lisbon *DIARIO DE NOTICIAS* in Portuguese
30 Jun 85 pp 30-32

[Interview with Pakistan President Ziaul Haq by Iqbal Ahmed in "late May" in Rawalpindi]

[Excerpt] *DIARIO DE NOTICIAS*: Mr President, over the past 10 years major changes have occurred in Pakistan, and a new institutional order was set up recently following the holding of legislative and provincial elections. An elected government functioning under martial law is rather unusual, do you not believe? Ziaul Haq: No. Personally, I believe that there is nothing unusual. What is unusual is the peaceful transfer of power from the military to the civilians. At least, in our region this is an unusual occurrence. It is the third occasion when a stage of this kind (of martial law) has reached its conclusion. Never before have things proceeded in this way in Pakistan — much less in other countries. Thus, what is unusual is the very peaceful and normal transfer of power to the civilians.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Does this mean, in your opinion, that the process is moving slowly in that direction and that it has not ended with the elections?

Ziaul Haq: The process has not ended with the elections. The elections began a process which we must undergo and which will culminate in the lifting of martial law. The first stage in the process was crowned with success through the holding of free elections. So there is nothing unusual. What is martial law, basically? If a totally military regime takes power, the law and the constitution are abandoned, civil freedoms are suspended, and there is complete military control: That is martial law. We have never experienced a situation of that kind, and if there ever was anything like that, it has now been left behind. At this moment, martial law exists only on paper. Part of the Constitution has entered into force again, and there are elected civilian representatives. There is a prime minister, provincial ministers, assemblies — all the ingredients of a democracy.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: The seeds have been sown....

Ziaul Haq: The seeds have been sown and the plant has already begun to grow, but the fruit will take some time to ripen.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Do you foresee any date for the lifting of martial law?

Ziaul Haq: Within a few months. We have said a few months because the component of martial law currently in force is the existence of the president, also called the martial law administrator, and we have decided to try some more delicate cases in military courts. This is all that exists of martial law in Pakistan today.

Party Politics and General Elections

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Does that mean, for instance, that there are no summary trials?

Ziaul Haq: They exist. Only for special cases, and even those only on my instructions or those of the (provincial) governors. Nobody is tried in military courts unless there is an explicit order to that effect.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Does this mean that the military cannot intervene in the courts?

Ziaul Haq: Exactly. We transcended that stage quite a few years ago. Now all that remains is the figure of the administrator and the trials for special cases, and this will end within a few months.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, the general impression in Europe is that the only political party of significance in Pakistan is the People's Party [PPP] (founded by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto). Do you believe that this idea remains valid after the elections?

Ziaul Haq: No. I believe that it is a mistaken idea. Perhaps it stems from the fact that we have been the target for adverse publicity, owing to the military regime. Western countries and journalists in general do not like military regimes. This being so, all those who have visited us have contacted especially the opposition, and the opposition has some PPP members, who created that impression. However, you can assess the parties' base of popular support from the following. I announced 12 August 1983 the political program for the next 18 months. One of the elements of the program was the holding of free elections, but on a nonparty basis. The PPP and other parties, which now constitute the so-called Movement for the Restoration of Democracy [MRD], called for a boycott of the elections.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Which failed, so I believe....

Ziaul Haq: Which failed. The MRD, whose main component is the PPP, did not achieve even a partial success in its call. Instead, people went to the polls in such great numbers that there was a 57-percent turnout in the provincial elections and a 53-percent turnout in the national legislative elections — the highest percentages ever recorded in Pakistan.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Which is quite significant.

Ziaul Haq: I therefore deduce that the PPP has no roots among the people. This is the first aspect. The second has to do with the fact that political parties were banned in 1979. However, they have functioned since then, albeit unofficially. We did not ban them totally. The Muslim League has been functioning, and the Jami'at-i-Islami has been functioning, as have the national Democratic Party and the Pakistan Democratic Party. But the PPP has done nothing. There are so many disagreements among its leaders that, in my opinion, it is no longer the same party as won the elections in 1970. So I believe that that impression is wholly mistaken.

India-Pakistan Relations

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, Pakistan's position as regards India can be compared, albeit in a different context, with Portugal's position as regards Spain. Since its independence, 800 years ago, Portugal has resisted Spanish attempts to play a "big brother" role, and since its formation as an independent state 37 years ago Pakistan has opposed Indian efforts to dominate the subcontinent. The Kashmir issue seems to have become interminable, and Indian leaders recently accused Islamabad of giving assistance to the Sikh rebels. What is the state of your relations with New Delhi?

Ziaul Haq: To some extent the situation persists. We find that India sometimes behaves hegemonically. We detect actions in

which that tendency is very clear. Pakistan is very small in comparison, but the smaller countries also have their personalities. This fact has created a situation similar to the situation which you mentioned as regards Portugal and Spain. However, we have striven to normalize relations with India because, as neighbors, we must live in peace.

We waged three wars with India which brought nothing positive, either for us or India. Thus over the past few years Pakistan has conducted, even unilaterally, a peace offensive, and currently I am pleased to say that good progress has occurred in this field. My two meetings with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi — the first in New Delhi, on the occasion of Mrs Gandhi's funeral, and the second recently in Moscow — were very encouraging, and it seems that the new Indian leaders are also prepared to help promote good-neighborly relations between India and Pakistan.

I do not know to what extent Spain has cooperated with and supported Portugal, but we have an underlying problem. It is the matter of the Hindu and Muslim psychologies. We have lived together and know each other so well that it is impossible to conceal our characteristics from each other. We have fought three wars, but I believe that the time has come for the whole of our relations to be analyzed objectively, and it is to that effect that Pakistan believes that we should both live in peace on an equal footing. Our efforts are to this end, and we recently had a very encouraging reaction from India.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: So far as I know, Pakistan has proposed to India the signing of a nonaggression pact. On the other hand, New Delhi has proposed to you a treaty of friendship. They are hesitant about your proposal and you are hesitating about theirs. To put the question directly: Why do you not accept India's proposal, and why does India not accept your proposal? Can you explain?

Ziaul Haq: Our proposal is indeed for a nonaggression pact, and was put forward for the first time by Qaid-e Azad Mohammad Ali Jinnah back in 1946. Thus the ball has always been in India's court, but I must also say that there was later a proposal by Nehru to Pakistan which we rejected.

So the pacts have a history of their own, and if the elements of the two agreements are analyzed, it will be found that they virtually coincide, with the sole exception that the agreement proposed by India contains two or three aspects which are unacceptable to Pakistan. For instance, they want all disputes to be resolved bilaterally, which cannot be accepted as a principle. You cannot sign a treaty with a neighboring country stipulating that all disputes will be resolved bilaterally, partly because there are many issues — such as, for instance, the problem of Kashmir — which have already been submitted to international bodies (United Nations). In that way we would be forfeiting the right to benefit from the intervention of international organizations such as the United Nations in cases such as Kashmir.

An Indian aircraft was recently hijacked and taken to Lahore, and the Indians began to assert that Pakistan had supplied weapons to the hijackers. India submitted the case to an international civil aviation organization. And thus it has recourse itself to international organizations. This is one aspect. The second is the fact that they have stated that Pakistan should guarantee that

it will not allow the setting up any foreign power's bases on its territory.

Pakistan is a member of the Nonaligned Movement and as such would never grant bases to a foreign power. But for them to ask us for that guarantee is tantamount to renouncing our sovereignty as an independent country to some extent. So we rejected the proposal. But we have made progress. We have proposed that the title of nonaggression pact be forgotten purely and simply, that the agreement be given a name acceptable to both sides, and that the two proposals be merged. This was done last year by the two secretaries of foreign affairs [as published], before this latest problem with India arose and everything was suddenly postponed. Now, the joint ministerial commission is to meet this month, and I hope that study of the merger of the two proposals will begin at that time and that in that way better results can be achieved.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Are you hopeful?

Ziaul Haq: Yes.

Meeting with Gorbachev Was Fruitful

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, you were recently in Moscow for President Chernenko's funeral, and the international press speculated that you had a meeting with Gorbachev and that there were discussions in depth on the problem of Afghanistan. It was even said that you were literally threatened by the new Soviet leader.

Ziaul Haq: That was the idea which the Soviet news agency sought to convey, because when two heads of state meet, people are normally informed by their respective advisers or by the agencies. Since we did not convey that information, it was the Soviet TASS agency which gave it firsthand and, in doing so, sought to give the impression that Pakistan had been threatened. The meeting proceeded normally, and Gorbachev was firm but correct in his attitude, as was I myself. It was a meeting lasting almost an hour at which we discussed only the issue of Afghanistan. I put forward my stance, he put forward his own, and it was encouraging to find that we were both in agreement on the fact that there is no military solution to the problem. Gorbachev assured me that the process of defining a political solution through indirect negotiations undertaken within the UN framework will have the Soviet Union's support. I believe that it was a very fruitful meeting, and there were no threats against Pakistan.

Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: However, following the signing, almost 14 years ago, of a treaty of friendship and cooperation with India — which resulted from the severance of the eastern part of Pakistan which now constitutes Bangladesh — current Soviet policy in southern Asia has three main elements: pacification of Afghanistan, isolation of Pakistan, and neutralization of Iran and China. With the assistance of dissidents inside and outside Pakistan, these three policies could possibly lead to the setting up of the People's Republic of Baluchistan. Do you believe that this was the main reason for the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan; that is, to reach the warm waters of the Arabian sea — Pakistan — by entering through the back door?

Ziaul Haq: Theoreticians and observers have suggested many reasons for the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. I am acquainted with them. I have also had my own reliable firsthand information, and we have our own theory. So I do not agree when it is said that the sole aim of the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan was that which you mentioned. What is important to emphasize is that this intervention changed the whole geopolitical situation in the region.

A superpower occupied with its troops a country which had nonaligned status as a member of the Nonaligned Movement and which was, moreover, an Islamic country. The Soviets entered by force and installed somebody (Babrak Karmal) in power by force. His (Babrak Karmal's) government is now propped up by 130,000 Soviet troops. This is what is important, and this is what changed the geopolitical situation in the region, affecting many countries — particularly Pakistan, because we share a common border.

However, Pakistan will never give way on matters of principle and maintains, together with virtually all the Muslim countries and also 119 UN member states, that the situation must be corrected. It is for this reason that Pakistan has been proposing a political solution, since a problem of this kind has no military solution.

But I wish to refer also to your question about Baluchistan. Countries go down in history for what they do when confronted with crises. Pakistan has experienced many crises — the crisis of the war with India, the crisis of internal disorder. We have had difficulties, but Pakistan has always faced up to difficulties as a strong and united nation, whenever threatened from outside. The people of Baluchistan are as patriotic and as loyal to Pakistan as the people of any other region of the country. It would be virtually impossible for the Soviet Union to detach any of the Pakistani provinces adjoining Afghanistan — whether Baluchistan or the Northwest Frontier Province. To that effect, I believe that as long as the Pakistani people continue to love freedom — which seems to me to be the case — no harm can come to Pakistan. That is my profound conviction.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, a hypothetical question: If Pakistan is threatened with a Soviet military intervention, whether direct or using Afghan troops, you have many trump cards — the U.S., Chinese, British, and French trump cards and, no less important, the trump card of Islam — albeit only for a period of, let us say, 6 or 7 years. The Soviets could wait that long to exploit the situation and, when the international situation became unfavorable to Islamabad, strike the final blow. Are you sufficiently prepared to face up to that situation?

Ziaul Haq: Pakistan does not wish to use any trump card as regards national defense. No trump card will come to our assistance. As I said just now, it is only our national unity and integration and the spirit of the Pakistani people which will eventually constitute the real trump card, and it is this trump card that we hold. Pakistan has 85 million inhabitants. Afghanistan has only 15 million, and out of that number one in every five is a refugee. Even so, they have fought for their freedom over the past 5 years. So far, 15 million people have not been subjugated by Soviet might.

This being so, and even if the spirit of freedom and everything else in the Pakistani nation of 85 million people is not taken into consideration, how can we be subjugated? Never. The essence lies in unity and in the Islamic spirit which formed Pakistan, and it would be this spirit which would enable Pakistan to withstand extremely difficult conditions and emerge as a free and independent country.

Indirect Afghan-Pakistani Talks

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Politically speaking, in this Afghan context, a third round of indirect Afghan-Pakistan talks was held recently in Geneva, under the sponsorship of UN Assistant Secretary General Diego Cordovez, who will be visiting Islamabad this month, I believe. Do you expect tangible results from these indirect talks — which, moreover, have been totally rejected by Iran from the outset — or does this mean only that you wish to keep all the options open?

Ziaul Haq: No, we are very clear about the situation in Afghanistan. We believe that there is no military solution; we must find a political solution.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: When you say "we," you mean yourself and who else?

Ziaul Haq: Pakistan and all the countries which support Pakistan — and there were 119 which voted for the resolution on Afghanistan at the United Nations. They all believe it firmly, and that is why the UN secretary general agreed to instruct his special representative, Cordovez, to act as mediator in the indirect talks. There have been rounds in Geneva, and the fourth will be held in June. Before that, we hope that Cordovez will visit Pakistan and Afghanistan.

In order to find a political solution there must be political activity, and in the international field there is no better forum than the United Nations. It is under the auspices of the UN secretary general's representative that these talks are taking place. Thus the fact that we have an authority of the stature of the United Nations for these talks stems from our efforts to find a solution. It is not desirable; it is not necessary for the results to be immediately visible. I would even say that, if these talks continue, they will in themselves constitute a step in the direction of progress. We do not expect miraculous results, because the issue is so difficult and intricate and because there is a superpower involved.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Is this owing to the so-called indirect talks?

Ziaul Haq: No, no, that is not the problem. The talks, direct or indirect, are essentially the same thing. Only the methodology is different, and perhaps slower.

We Have Iran's Tacit Agreement on Afghanistan

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: The principles are there; the points, too....

Ziaul Haq: Yes, the principles are present, the points, too; the essential points have been accepted, and, what is more important, Iran may not have taken part, but we have a tacit agreement that Iran is also in favor of a political solution, and Afghanistan would not take part even in indirect negotiations if it did not have the

Soviet Union's tacit agreement. Thus we have the UN agency working to this end, we have Pakistan and Afghanistan, and we have Iran's tacit agreement and the Soviet Union's support.

We hope that some results will emerge, but we cannot expect miraculous results. Even if the results are far off, the process continues. In my opinion it is good both for the region and for the countries as such.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Even so, in this context, Pakistan's humanitarian assistance for the 3 million Afghan refugees has aroused considerable sympathy and even material assistance from the international community. But if the refugees do not return to their country in the near future and they begin to cause resentment among the local population, how do you intend to cope with the situation?

Ziaul Haq: This phenomenon is very interesting. Never in the history of refugees, except 1,400 years ago (when the Prophet, peace be with him, went to Medina, and there were "ansar" [helpers] and "muhajirun" [emigrants] in Madina itself), never in the history of the Islamic world, in Islamic history, or in any other history have so many people been loved by so many local inhabitants for so long. Some 5 years have elapsed, we have 3 million refugees, and we have no social problems.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: And you foresee no problems? Do you believe that the refugees are completely integrated, absorbed by the local community?

Ziaul Haq: No, they are not integrated; they have a separate identity of their own. They live in about 250 refugee villages — 3 million in two provinces of Pakistan. They have not been absorbed or mingled with the local population. They live among themselves as an entity, and we have no social problem. This is because virtually 50 percent are children, 27 percent are women, and the rest are elderly people. I hope that you will visit the refugee camps and see for yourself.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Yes, I intend to visit some.

Ziaul Haq: And when you look at an Afghan and ask him what he wants, he will tell you that he wants to fight for his country and that, "Inshallah" (God willing), he will return to his country some day. That is the spirit. How could we have problems? No, none. As long as this spirit persists and the Afghan refugees want to return, we will have no problems.

The problems will begin to arise when the Afghans' morale begins to deteriorate and when they begin to consider settling in Pakistan. That is when we will have to consider what to do with these 3 million people, how to absorb them into Pakistan. But so far I foresee no difficulty for the next 5 years, and I hope that God will help us resolve the Afghan problem by then.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: It is undoubtedly a unique situation.

Ziaul Haq: It is a unique situation, and it must be seen to be believed. That is the truth.

Iran-Iraq War

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: The war between Iran and Iraq has completed its fourth year of death and destruction. Neither side seems prepared to stop. Thousands of people have been killed and

tens of billions of dollars' worth of military and other equipment has been destroyed. You have headed many mediation missions to both countries, which, however, have not achieved even a temporary cease-fire by Baghdad or Tehran. How do you assess the military and political situation in the Gulf region, which is on your doorstep? In your opinion, is the crisis increasing or diminishing?

Ziaul Haq: The crisis is seething, because, when you speak of this crisis, it is a matter of the whole Islamic world from Lebanon to Iraq and Iran. It is especially terrible for Iran and Iraq. It is a very sad, very disheartening situation; it is so humiliating to see two Muslims fighting each other! My sole response is to pray to God to give them wisdom to see the future clearly and to start talking instead of fighting. Sincerely, it is so sad! So many lives have been lost and there has been so much destruction, which benefits nobody and harms the Muslim cause, the Muslim countries, and specifically these two nations, unfortunately.

Economic Performance and Green Revolution

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, Let us return to Pakistan's domestic situation. The Pakistani economy is a topic much discussed. In fact, over the past 7 years, Pakistan's economy has undergone a considerable recovery. I have read World Bank reports and other material in this connection. Allow me to say that Pakistan seems to be an island of some prosperity in a world in recession. What is the secret of this economic performance?

Ziaul Haq: Yes, there are four factors which have contributed to this. In the first place — believe me, I am not saying this for the sake of saying it; it is the truth — there are God's blessings, without which we would not have achieved what we have achieved. Second, it is due to some very expert and dedicated Pakistani economists and technocrats, who formulated the policies which worked. It was through their efforts, combined with the full support of all sections of society — farmers, workers, factory owners, and so forth — which contributed to this. But if you attempt to analyze the situation, it is due basically to good financial management, a practical approach to problems, honest work and control of waste, and our effort to implement Islamic values. The outcome is 9-percent growth in GNP, 6-percent annual overall growth over the past 4 years, and 4-percent growth in agriculture, exceeding the increase in population.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Growth of 9 percent is something unheard of since the sixties and seventies, when Japan and South Korea emerged on the world economic scene.

Ziaul Haq: That figure is for 1984-1985. God has been very generous.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: You also have a green revolution under way. For the first time since independence, Pakistan has become self-sufficient in foodstuffs, feeding a population of almost 90 million people, although Pakistan's rural masses remain the poorest in the world. I have heard it said that a major, specifically rural social enrichment plan is beginning.

Ziaul Haq: Yes, we have had good results. We realize that although Pakistan, among the developing countries, has experienced spectacular economic growth, it remains one of the countries with the lowest per capita incomes, and the rural areas are very underdeveloped. Some 60-70 percent of Pakistan's population live in rural areas, and it was they who carried out this

green revolution. It was their effort which makes me and all Pakistanis very proud that we are now self-sufficient in food-stuffs, having produced record quantities of rice.

Never before in Pakistan's history have we produced 6 million bales of cotton in a harvest. Although the price of cotton is very low at the world level this year, they are still 6 million bales of cotton.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: It seems that you are now going to begin to export cereals....

Ziaul Haq: Yes, we were already exporting them last year. This year the wheat harvest will be a good deal less than we were hoping, owing to the drought. So there will be a certain setback, but overall the growth rate remains 9 percent for this year. We are very fortunate; God has been good.

Nuclear Program

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, I believe that many representatives of news media have already asked you this question: A few months ago, Washington discontinued its nuclear cooperation with Beijing following alleged cooperation between China and Pakistan in the nuclear field. In your speech in Karachi last May, you said that Pakistan has achieved, and I quote, "something very important" in this field, enabling it to place itself alongside another five powers. U.S. Senator Cranston has also said that your government is deeply involved in the manufacture of nuclear weapons. At the beginning of this year, Indian leaders and senior officials even asserted that Pakistan had already tested a nuclear weapon in June 1983, in the Chinese territory of Xinjiang. All this is very confused. What is the real situation? Does the first Islamic nuclear bomb already form part of the Pakistani arsenal?

Ziaul Haq: The real situation is that everything that you have just said is false. The fact is that there is no cooperation between China and Pakistan in the nuclear field. Pakistan is attempting to acquire nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, and the modest Pakistani research program is wholly national. What placed us among the five powers was our success in the enrichment of uranium, a process known to only five countries in the world. It was in this respect that this modest research program enabled us to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes. We have no cooperation with China. Everything that India, the United States, and other countries are saying is false and fabricated, and is the outcome of a lobby opposed to Pakistan which is seeking to provoke differences in the Pakistani-U.S. cooperation program.

And the Soviet Union's interests are involved in this; the plans are Soviet. They are all interested, and the truth is that Pakistan has neither the ability nor the desire to acquire nuclear weapons, but it has the right and the determination to acquire nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: But the enrichment of uranium is a considerable success; I mean, in terms of national technology it is something very important.

Ziaul Haq: It is important, but it does not necessarily mean that a nuclear bomb will be acquired. Admittedly it is a means, but only provided that a high degree of enrichment is achieved; we

do not have that ability. We do not have the intention, the resources, or the ability. But as regards what people have speculated, such as the report that Pakistan has already carried out a nuclear explosion in Xinjiang Province, let me tell you that this is totally fabricated.

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: I believe that it was the Indian defense minister who said so.

Ziaul Haq: Yes, we heard so, but it is not true.

"Warm Greetings to Portuguese People and Government"

DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: Mr President, a final question. We have had good relations for a long time, but there have been no high-level contacts between the two countries since President Iskander Mirza's visit to Lisbon in 1957. Is the reopening of your embassy in Lisbon an indication that relations between the two countries will receive a new impetus? And in what political and economic areas do you foresee greater cooperation between the two countries?

Ziaul Haq: We hope that with the reopening of our embassy in Lisbon relations between the two countries, which have already attained a friendly level, will intensify. We have good bilateral relations and I am certain that, with greater political collaboration, we will have better opportunities for exchanges of products and for increased trade and exchanges in general between citizens of the two countries. We have the greatest love and affection for Portugal, and I hope that you will convey my warmest greetings to the Portuguese people and government, and, when the opportunity arises, maybe some day the prime minister or I will visit Portugal.

Further Reportage on Rioting in Quetta

Interior Minister Briefs Senate

BK111655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
11 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak has assured the Senate that the government will continue its wholehearted efforts to promote sectarian harmony and national cohesion. He was speaking on several adjournment motions sought to be moved by some members at the house today on the Quetta situation. He said that we want to promote understanding and end the trend of sectarianism and chaos.

He said that the Quetta incident was the outcome of a political movement and that it will be dealt with accordingly. As for religious matters, they will be solved with the cooperation of all concerned. He said that it was a war between two Shi'ite groups to gain political leadership—a war that assumed political color; and nonreligious demands and elements came to the forefront. This group resorted to violence. The [words indistinct] demonstrators in Lahore and Peshawar were armed, but no clashes were allowed to occur. However, regrettable incidents happened in Quetta as a result of the agitation launched by the Arif Hussaini group.

The federal minister, referring to the demands of the group as enshrined in the 6 July pamphlet, said that besides the so-called

restriction on the [word indistinct] demonstration, all other demands are of a political nature. He said that the matter is part of the agreement reached between the government and the Musavi group on 21 May and that the issue was already settled.

He also said that a committee comprising cabinet ministers and nominated representatives of all major sects and legal experts has been constituted and will be announced [words indistinct]. The committee will study the demands made by various Shi'ite groups — including the Musavi and the Arif Hussaini groups — from time to time in order to identify the causes of the uneasiness prevailing among the Shi'ite fraternity and to formulate measures to remedy it. He said that it was unanimously agreed that the committee should be set up after the understanding was reached with the Musavi group. The committee testifies to the fact that the government, irrespective of its own stand, is ready to consider any demand by followers of any Islamic jurisprudence to remove their misgivings while Islamizing the society according to the teachings of the Koran and the prophet. However, the Arif Hussaini group decided to begin armed agitation in Quetta, Lahore, and Peshawar. This group tried to harm the understanding reached between the government and its rival group of Seyyed Hamid Ali Shah Musavi.

Providing details of the Quetta incident, the interior minister described it as very distressing. He said that about 6,000-7,000 people tried to hold a demonstration which got out of control. As a result of shooting by some people, 9 policemen were killed and 20 wounded. The police had to resort to tear gas and return the fire, and 13 persons were killed and 39 injured.

The mob set fire to a police jeep and several trucks and damaged two vehicles of the Water and Power Development Authority as well. Besides this, the mob also set fire to public and private properties.

He said that the Baluchistan governor has ordered a judicial inquiry of the incident. The Senate chairman, describing the adjournment motions as being against regulations, said that law and order is a provincial matter and a judicial inquiry of the matter is being conducted.

Situation 'Generally Normal'

*BK120315 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
12 Jul 85*

[Text] A press note issued by the local administration in Quetta yesterday evening says the situation in curfew-bound Qaidabad police station area was generally normal. Security forces seized illicit arms kept in secret places and arrested several persons for violating the law. Life in the city was normal and business centers were open.

600 Arrested; Arms Seized

*BK121258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
12 Jul 85*

[Text] In Pakistan, the authorities have arrested about 600 people and seized large quantities of arms in the western city of Quetta following Shi'ite unrest, in which at least 27 people were killed. About 450 of those arrested in curfew-bound Qaidabad district were Afghan refugees who would be expelled from the city.

The unrest started last Saturday [6 July], when Shi'ites on a banned march from all religious rights clashed with police. Twenty-five people, including nine policemen, were killed in the clashes.

SRI LANKA

Tamils Condemn Attempt on President's Life

BK120353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Representatives of the Eelam Revolutionary Organization have condemned the alleged attempt to assassinate President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka. The organization comprises Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, the People's Liberation Organization for Tamil Eelam, and the Tamil United Liberation Front. They categorically stated that they are not in any way connected with the attempt.

The Tamil militant groups and the TULF are currently participating in the talks at Thimpu on the ethnic issue in the island. They said the alleged attempt to blow up the presidential offices in Colombo is an attempt to discredit the liberation organizations engaged in talks at the Bhutanese capital.

'Sources' Say Tamils Unlikely To Accept Proposals

HK111359 Hong Kong AFP in English 1319 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] Madras, India, July 11 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's Tamil separatists are unlikely to accept proposals for devolution of power made by the Colombo government in talks now under way in Thimpu, Tamil sources said here today.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA meanwhile reported from New Delhi, quoting reports reaching there from the Bhutanese capital, that two Tamil groups in talks with the Sri Lankan Government today rejected outright Colombo's proposals.

The talks which started Monday between Tamil groups and the Colombo government, have been closed to the media. However sources here and in Colombo said that the government was talking of devolution of power within a unitary constitution.

Representatives of the five military bodies forming the Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF), which is taking part in the Thimpu discussions, yesterday asked for talks on the proposals to be deferred until tomorrow, allowing them to consult with their leaders in Madras.

PTI said both the ENLF and the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) had rejected outright the government's proposals. The package is aimed at ending the ethnic conflict centered on militant Tamil demand for a separate state in the north and east, which has claimed more than 2,000 lives in the past decade.

TULF President Mr. Sivasithamparam told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here that the proposals were a repetition of old ones "without even any cosmetic changes. The TULF, which is the main Tamil party in the island republic, is represented in Thimpu by Secretary-General Appapillai Amirthalingam. Sources in the TULF said Mr. Amirthalingam had telephoned

party colleagues here last night, conveying his disappointment at the "repeated" proposals.

Today's discussions were chiefly devoted to the June 18 ceasefire agreement and alleged violations, the sources said.

Quoting information received from Thimpu, the sources here reported Colombo representative Hector Jayewardene as saying that any devolution of power would have to be within the unitary character of the constitution, which could not be altered to suit the demands of the community. "This is all we can offer," the lawyer brother of President Junius Jayewardene reportedly added and expressed the hope that if not the TULF, the five militant organisations would consider it seriously.

The five bodies represented on the ENLF are Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT).

(In Colombo, Sri Lanka today strongly denied Tamil charges that the government was holding some 3,000 Tamil political prisoners and was using a ceasefire with militant separatists to increase its military preparedness. "We have nowhere near that number," National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said, denying that any detainees held were political prisoners.

(Meanwhile, the government was today preparing to release the bulk of the 643 Tamil detainees who are held in a southern camp at Boosa. The decision to release the detainees and lift the eight-month-long night curfew in the mainly Tamil northern province was announced yesterday.)

'Official Sources' Say Talks With Tamils To Continue

HK120806 Hong Kong AFP in English 0741 GMT 12 Jul

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, July 12 (AFP) — Peace talks between the Sri Lankan Government and Tamil groups are to continue despite an abortive attempt to assassinate Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene, official sources said here today.

Yesterday the Sri Lankan Government said police had found a 120-kilogramme (264-pound) bomb in a van that was apparently to be driven to the president's office in the centre of Colombo.

State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis announced that two Tamil youths arrested at the time of the discovery had confessed to being members of the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS), one of the militant Tamil separatist groups taking part in the peace negotiations.

Representatives of the government, five militant Tamil separatist groups and the main Tamil political party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) are currently engaged in Indian government-sponsored peace talks in Thimpu, the Bhutanese capital.

(In Madras, southern India, EROS leader Velupillai Balakumaran reportedly denied his group was involved in the planned bomb attack.)

Nevertheless, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said today that the planned attack was definitely an EROS operation.

(In Madras, sources in all five militant Tamil groups blamed the planned attack on a Tamil "fringe groups," the Tamil Eelam Army [TEA].)

But Mr. Athulathmudali appeared to dismiss the idea of TEA involvement when he said the government had received reports about a month ago warning of possible EROS attacks in Colombo. He said the role assigned to EROS in the Eelam National Liberation Front, which unites four of the five Tamil militant groups at the talks, was to create violence and disturbances in Colombo.

Members of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority, saying they are unfairly treated by the Sinhala majority, want greater autonomy for Tamil areas in the north and east of the island, while militant Tamils have been waging a guerrilla campaign for independence for these areas.

Informed sources said the Tamil representatives at the Thimpu talks would have the chance today to put forward their own proposals for settling the conflict. But the sources said that the Tamil groups were unlikely to present any proposals of their own today. The sources said it was more likely the parties would discuss possible modification of a government plan tabled on Wednesday but rejected by Tamil representatives. The TULF turned down the plan because it did not provide for the amalgamation of Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces into a single entity. The TULF also rejected the plan because it provided for devolution of power to district councils. The TULF wants power devolved to regional councils. A TULF spokesman here strongly denied that his party had abandoned its demand for the amalgamation of the two provinces.

On Wednesday the official news agency LANKA PUVATH reported that the TULF and the other Tamil groups attending the talks had given up their demand for amalgamation.

Sources here said the Thimpu talks might be adjourned at the weekend to allow participants to return to their respective bases for consultations. The break is also expected to give India the chance to "clear the air" for the next round of talks, which is expected to start after a recess of about two weeks.

12 Killed, 22 Injured in Bus Explosion 11 Jul*LD121123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Jul 85*

[Text] Following the chain of successful operations by the warriors of Islam on the battlefronts and following the blows delivered by the forces of Islam on the affiliated groups in western parts of the country, yesterday a 20-pound bomb was exploded in a passenger bus, which was travelling from Tabriz to Khov with 34 passengers on board. As a result a number of our compatriots, mostly women and children, were either martyred or wounded.

A report from the Central News Unit correspondent from Tabriz indicates that as a result of this bomb explosion, which was concealed in the luggage compartment of the bus, 12 people were martyred. The 22 people injured in the incident were taken to the Imam Khomeini and Sina hospitals of Tabriz.

Velayati Sends Message to Nicaraguan Counterpart*LD112024 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA — Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a message sent to Miguel D'Escoto, the Nicaraguan foreign minister, reiterated Iran's support for Nicaragua in the face of aggressions by the United States of America. The message which was sent Thursday, referred to a hunger strike by Foreign Minister D'Escoto to protest repeated plots hatched by U.S. imperialism against the Nicaraguan revolution. It went on to say that the United States, through its propaganda ploys, is trying to smear popular revolutionary figures and movements.

"I admire your action as another means for revealing American plots and increasing the awareness of the oppressed and deprived people in the region, and I also admire this revolutionary action of the Catholic Church," Velayati said in his message.

President Briefed on Envoy's Latin American Trip*GF120614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Jul 85*

[Text] According to a report by IRNA, yesterday afternoon Foreign Minister Velayati accompanied Mr Larijani, special envoy of the president -- who had traveled to Cuba, Nicaragua, and Brazil to convey messages from President Khamene'i to the heads of these countries, as well as two directors of the Foreign Ministry -- to a meeting with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. The president was informed of the results of their latest mission.

President Receives Spanish Envoy 11 Jul*LD120310 Tehran IRNA in English 1125 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[Text] President 'Ali Khamene'i Thursday morning received Jose Maria Sierra y Nava, the new Spanish ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Spanish envoy presented his credentials to President Khamene'i and said his country's non-participation in the economic embargo which was imposed against the Islamic

Republic of Iran by the United States and most other Western countries in 1980 indicated that Spain valued her ties with Iran a great deal.

In his remarks, President Khamene'i said Iran was one of the few countries in the world where superpowers did not have any influence on her economic and political destiny.

President Receives Message From Bangladesh President*LD111019 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[Text] According to a report of the Central News Unit, in response to a friendly message from the president of our country to the president of Bangladesh which referred to the war crimes of the Iraqi regime in attacking residential areas, a reciprocal message was sent yesterday by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad of Bangladesh to President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

The message welcomes the very close and fraternal relations between the two countries. In connection with Iraq's policy of attacking residential areas which is contrary to all international regulations, it says: At its meeting on 24 March, 1985, the Bangladesh cabinet discussed the war and expressed deep regret and anxiety concerning the hardships which are inflicted on civilians. We have made it clear to all the sides involved in this issue that we regret the violation of the 12 June 1984 agreement which was reached under the auspices of the United Nations Organization, whereby the two sides pledged not to attack civilian targets; and we have unilaterally [as heard] and repeatedly asked the two sides to respect international conventions which are aimed at minimizing the human hardships resulting from wars.

Continuing this report, the Central News Unit correspondent adds: The 12 June agreement was violated by the Iraqi regime during the last month of Ramadan; and from 18 days before International Jerusalem Day up to Jerusalem Day the Iraqi regime attacked Iran's residential areas from the air and with missiles in order to prevent the holding of historic demonstrations on International Jerusalem Day and in order to force the revolutionary Iranian nation to compromise.

Kuwaiti Official Attacks 'Corrupt' U.S. Oil Workers*LD071807 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 7 Jul 85*

[Text] Kuwait, July 7, IRNA — A Kuwaiti parliamentarian said at a session of Kuwait's Parliament on Saturday that the seizure of the former compounds of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by Muslim students following the Imam's line had led to the discovery and publishing of classified documents of the U.S. State Department about U.S. operations in Kuwait and in other Persian Gulf countries. He expressed hope that Kuwait's Oil Ministry officials would soon get hold of the embassy documents about U.S. operations and its evaluations of the situation in Kuwait.

'Abdallah Nafisi sharply criticized the Kuwaiti Oil Ministry officials for employing at least 430 American expatriates in the country's oil industry areas at the port of 'Abdallah noting that

in their evaluation of the Persian Gulf (?countries) U.S. policy makers have referred to Kuwait solely as a part of the "oil belt" in the region.

He also criticized the Kuwaiti Government for keeping U.S. expatriate workers at the various industries in the country reminding that a group of 23 pro-Zionist Americans were busy collecting intelligence information about Kuwait and engaging in espionage activities.

He described the American community in Port 'Abdallah as corrupt people misappropriating public property and making ostentatious display of their luxury living and "injuring Arabs and Muslims by wearing Israeli-made clothing".

Tehran Reports Fire in Kuwait Oil Storage Tanks

*GF111142 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[Text] A huge fire broke out early yesterday in oil storage tanks in southeastern Kuwait. News agencies said that five firemen were injured while extinguishing the fire which covered an area of 3 square kms. In a preliminary estimate, the losses and damage to the oil storage tanks and the factories located in the surrounding area have been put at millions of dollars.

Iraq's Espionage Activities in Tunisia Detailed

*GF111136 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 11 Jul 85*

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* wrote on the arrest of a number of Iraqi diplomats in Tunisia for their participation in an espionage network. The paper said: The vile aggressive nature of the Saddamist regime daily becomes apparent together with its covert and overt criminal practices, and its use of embassies and diplomats for purposes of espionage.

Press reports in Tunis have said that a spy ring has been uncovered which works for the ruling regime in Baghdad whose members include a number of Tunisians, in addition to the Iraqi diplomats there. This matter was revealed by the Tunisian newspaper *AL-SHA'B*. A number of persons in Tunisia have been arrested for their dealing with the Iraqi espionage network and their interrogation on this matter has begun.

Earlier, three Iraqi diplomats were expelled from Tunisia on charges of carrying out espionage activity and illegal acts. Three Tunisians employed in the Foreign and Interior Ministries and the Army were arrested. They used to carry out espionage acts for Iraq.

The Saddamist ambassador to Tunisia is making efforts to cover up this action and is attempting to mediate to release the detainees.

The Saddamist regime is carrying out espionage acts in most Arab countries. Earlier, members of the Iraqi Embassies in

Kuwait and Bahrain were arrested for carrying out espionage activities. Weapons were recently discovered in Saddam's embassy in Bahrain.

Romanian Trade Delegation Begins Talks

LD111906 Tehran IRNA in English 1428 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA — The Romanian deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic co-operation, Ion Stoian and his accompanying delegation who arrived here Wednesday, met Thursday separately with the head of the Central Bank, Mohsen Nourbakhsh, deputy minister of agriculture, Mr Jamali and chief executive of Iran's state railways, Abdol Hassan Khamushi.

At these meetings, Ion Stoian exchanged views with the Iranian authorities on issues relevant to banking and economic ties between the two countries, Iran-Romania agricultural cooperations as well as railway installations and equipments.

Transportation Issues Discussed With Ankara

LD100936 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 10 Jul 85

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Prov., July 10, IRNA — Issues relevant to transportation between Iran and Turkey and ways to improve the present situation were discussed in a meeting of officials of roads and transportation ministries of the two countries here Tuesday.

The Iranian delegation, emphasising Iran's policy for the expansion of relations with the Third World and Muslim countries, specially its neighbours, said that such meetings will be effective for the removal of present transportation problems.

Meanwhile, the Turkish side stressed that Iran and Turkey were two friendly countries with common Islamic values. They added that the continuation of this friendship will be in the interests of the two nations.

Envoy to Helsinki Confers With Finland's Sorsa

LD051641 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 5 Jul 85

[Text] Stockholm [as received] July 5, IRNA — Iran's ambassador to Helsinki 'Ali Rostami discussed mutual relations and issues of interest between the Islamic Republic and Finland in a meeting with that country's Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa Thursday.

During the meeting, the Iranian ambassador explained the stands of the Islamic Republic towards the Iraqi imposed war and called on the Finnish prime minister to explicitly express the stand of his country towards the Iraqi imposed war, especially the breaking of international laws, such as attacks on residential areas and deployment of chemical weapons.

Rostami also described the exchange of delegations at ministerial and other levels as effective steps towards expansion of relations between the two countries. He added that the trip of Finland's

foreign trade minister, Jermu Laine to Iran last summer to visit the international commercial fair of Tehran was a step towards expansion of mutual relations between the two countries.

The Finnish prime minister said that the Islamic Republic was a country with a very rich culture and that his country was willing to get further acquainted with the Iranian culture, tradition and customs and thus tries to expand political, cultural and economic relations with Iran.

He added that Finland desired an end to Iraq-Iran war so that it could use its trade and advanced technology for the reconstruction of war zones and the destructions caused as a result of the war imposed on Iran.

Candidates for Judicial Council Elections Listed

LD061301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The list of qualified candidates for the second round of Supreme Judicial Council elections was announced. Hoseyn Mehrpur, a member of the Inspection Committee of the Supreme Judicial Council elections, announced seven of the qualified candidates for the membership of the Supreme Judicial Council in a press and mass media interview this morning: Seyyed Ja'afar Karimi, 'Abbas Mahfuzi, Seyyed Mohammad Hasan Marashi, Hadi Ma'refat, Mortaza Moqtada'i, Seyyed Mohammad Musavi-Bojnurdi, Seyyed Abdol Fazl Mir-Mohammadi;

Addressing the voters on the election of the Supreme Judicial Council candidates, he stated: The judges are to vote for the maximum of three names on the election cards only, and the cards must be signed and certified by the highest ranking judiciary at the locality. Any problems are to be reported to the Secretariat of the Inspection Committee via the telephone number on the reverse of the election cards.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Damaged Tanker Heads for Sirri

LD111328 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 11, IRNA — The spokesman of the Iranian Ministry of Oil announced Thursday [11 July] that the ULCC (ultra large crude carrier) *Vatan* which was hit by Iraqi jets Tuesday is sailing towards Sirri Island so as to unload its cargo.

The 380,000-ton tanker, according to the Oil Ministry spokesman, only suffered minor damages. "The fire on the tanker was stopped Wednesday and we still do not know exactly how much of the tanker's load has spilled into the Persian Gulf," he added. He further said that since the damage was minor, the amount of spilled oil should be small too.

All the crew of *Vatan* are reported to be safe and after the fire was extinguished, they have returned to their normal duties, the spokesman said.

Vatan is one of several ULCCs Iran has hired to ferry crude to Sirri Island from Khark oil terminal. Purchasers of Iranian crude oil load their tankers at Sirri Island instead of coming to the Khark Island oil terminal about 330 miles from Sirri.

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled

GF111456 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] The steadfast towns of Abadan and Khorramshahr and the villages near the two towns have been sporadically shelled within the past 24 hours by heavy artillery units of the Zionist-Ba'thist Iraqi enemy.

According to the correspondent of the Central News Unit from Abadan, in Khorramshahr two of our civilian compatriots received shrapnel wounds from the heavy artillery fire of the heretic enemy. In Abadan, four houses were damaged.

Heavy Iraqi Casualties

LD111722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] According to the last report received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya operational headquarters, at 1030 today, the defeated enemy embarked on a counterattack with two tank battalions and two infantry battalions in the operational sector of Jerusalem III and due to the volume of fire of the Islamic combatants, 15 tanks and more than 30 personnel and equipment-carrying vehicles were set on fire and destroyed. In the course of this clash more than 400 other enemy troops were killed. Also at 1130 enemy forces, covered by their artillery, aircraft and helicopter fire, launched a counterattack which was repelled through the courage and steadfastness of the forces of Islam, and the enemy was forced to retreat having sustained heavy casualties.

It is to be noted that the combatants of Islam, in the first hour of the successful operations of Jerusalem III which began at 2230 last night, succeeded, while crossing the enemy's minefields, in killing or wounding 850 troops and capturing 50 men of the Saddamist forces.

Iraqi Plane Downed

LD120803 Tehran IRNA in English 0756 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — An Iraqi war plane was shot down in Piranshah region in West Azarbaijan Prov. at 8:20 local time (4:50 G.M.T.) Friday by the heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic forces, Iran's Joint Staff Command announced today.

The pilot of the Iraqi plane was taken captive by the Iranian Muslim combatants, the command said.

The command added that the downed plane was among a number of intruding Iraqi warplanes which violated the airspace of Piranshah this morning intending to bombard the city.

Rebel Group Members Request Safe Conduct

LD112029 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
11 Jul 85

[Text] According to an IRNA report quoting the Hamizeh Seyyed al-Shohada Headquarters, following the operation by Islam's fighters in the western rural areas of the country, so far more than 110 members of various small groups [antigovernment fighters] have reported to auxiliary bases of Hamizeh Seyyed al-Shohada Headquarters. Along with their leaders, they have requested safe-conduct.

Soviet Clashes With Afghan Revolutionaries Detailed

LD111948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
11 Jul 85

[Text] Muslim Afghan revolutionaries, in an engagement with the joint occupying and government forces of Afghanistan around the Shindand region of Farah Province, succeeded in killing 70 of the joint forces and in destroying 10 tanks and 1 APC.

According to an IRNA report, the clash took place when Soviet forces attempted to approach a column of Muslim Afghan revolutionaries carrying ammunition. They were made to retreat after 6 (?days) of engagements and suffering considerable losses in life and material.

The reports received indicate that last week a helicopter gunship belonging to the Soviet forces engaged in support action for the occupying forces in Herat Province, was downed by Muslim Afghan revolutionaries. All the occupants were killed.

According to the same reports, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries in an attack on the frontier post of Shindand wounded two Parcham party elements and captured another who was later tried by field court-martial and executed by firing-squad.

According to these reports, the joint occupying and government forces of Afghanistan set fire to a number of haystacks of the deprived rural residents near the post.

Free Voice of Iran Details Haj Sabotage Plans

GF111704 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] The Khomeyni regime has trained several revolutionary guards for acts of sabotage in the region. According to a dispatch from the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, a group of these revolutionary guards have been sent to help the Amal organization militia in Beirut for attacks against Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Our correspondent, quoting reliable sources, says a group of revolutionary guards will accompany the Haj caravans from Iran to Saudi Arabia. They are tasked with carrying out acts of sabotage and terrorism during the Haj ceremonies.

Free Voice of Iran: Majlis Speaker Seeks U.S. Ties

GF111716 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] According to informed sources, the aim of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's trip to Japan, besides discussing trade agreements and arms purchases, was to prepare the groundwork for reestablishment of ties with the United States.

During the past few years since Tehran's relations have been cut with Washington, Japan has been in touch with officials of the Islamic Republic on various matters on behalf of the United States.

Recently it has been rumored that Japan is carrying out U.S. policies in Iran. Now, taking into consideration the situation of the Islamic Republic and the fact that it is under stress, Hashemi-Rafsanjani wants to open doors for indirect negotiations with the United States.

The correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran adds in his report that it is being said in Tokyo that Hashemi-Rafsanjani held talks with Japanese officials on Iran's relations with the United States.

Free Voice of Iran: Tanks Purchased From Argentina

GF111630 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] The Islamic Republic regime has signed an arms deal with Argentina. The correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran reports that in accordance with this agreement the Islamic Republic's regime has purchased 100 TAM tanks from Argentina worth more than \$170 million. More than 75 percent of the parts used in the TAM tanks are built in Argentina with the help of Israel.

Argentina has acted as a go-between in the past for arms sales by Israel to the Islamic Republic. Three years ago an Argentinian cargo plane crashed in Soviet territory, revealing the purchases of arms from Israel by the Islamic Republic.

Radio Nejat-e Iran: Rifts Among Security Forces

GF111850 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
1630 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] According to a report by the Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Tehran, rifts among security forces in Iran's cities and towns are becoming more pronounced every day. Mullah Salek, who recently acquired more power, with Majlis approval, to strengthen and expand the powers of the revolutionary committees, has suggested to the government that police stations and committees be merged together. He has recommended that some of the duties of the police force should be formally and legally handed over to the committees.

Presently some of the committees have occupied several police stations and committee members interfere in the work of the police, trying to purge and get rid of the policemen. The revolutionary committees at first only existed in some of the bigger towns in Iran but a few months ago Mullah Salek, who recently

acquired the title of deputy minister of interior, expanded the committees to all towns and even villages. In some cases clashes with the revolutionary guards have occurred.

The salaries and bonuses of the committee members are several times higher than those of the revolutionary guards and the committee members also have a minimal role at the war front.

This has caused more dissatisfaction among the revolutionary guards corps. Many houses that have been confiscated or abandoned are under the control of the chiefs of committees who live in these houses with their families.

Recently, with the expulsion of revolutionary guards from government offices, the committee members have gradually started to replace them in ministries and government offices. The revolutionary guards say that most of the committee members are wicked people with bad records, often with criminal backgrounds, who fled from prisons after the prisons were liberated during the revolution in 1979. These criminals created the local committees themselves.

Radio Nejat-e Iran Views Regime's Fear of Army
GF111922 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
1630 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] The Iranian clerical regime's fear of the Armed Forces is so great that even after the massacre of officers and the expulsions and purges that have taken place, this fear has not subsided. The Revolutionary Guards Corps is being strengthened every day and all weaponry purchased during the war is handed over to the revolutionary guards. The arms in ammunition dumps of the Armed Forces also have been turned over to the revolutionary guards. Today the fighting units of the Army, face-to-face with a foreign enemy on the battlefields, can only receive their arms and ammunition upon orders of the commander of the Revolutionary Guards Corps.

A few months ago recruitment was placed in the hands of the Revolutionary Guards Corps as well. According to this plan, the Armed Forces have been forbidden from accepting eligible men for military service until the Revolutionary Guards Corps is fully manned.